

37. A floor covering comprising:  
a chemically embossed portion; and  
a mechanically embossed wear layer portion,  
wherein said chemically embossed portion has at least one chemical emboss  
depth that is greater than the mechanical emboss depth of any portion of said  
mechanically embossed portion, and  
wherein said wear layer has a uniform melt viscosity and is cured during  
chemical embossing.

38. A floor covering comprising:  
a chemically embossed portion; and  
a wear layer having a mechanically embossed first portion and a second  
portion which has not been mechanically embossed,  
wherein the first portion and the second portion constitute the entire  
wear layer.--

*Hand is cured prior to  
mechanically embossing*

**REMARKS**

Claims 21-38 are pending in this application. Applicants have amended claim 21, and added new claims 32-38 to more particularly define their invention. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed.

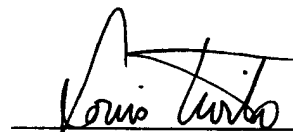
Applicants respectfully request formal examination of this application and allowance of the pending claims at the Examiner's convenience.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Preliminary Amendment and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:



Louis M. Troilo  
Reg. No. 45,284

Dated: July 26, 2001

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000

**Amended Claims With Markings to Show Changes Made  
By Amendment of July 25, 2001**

21. (Amended) A floor covering comprising:
- a chemically embossed portion; and
  - a mechanically embossed portion [having a mechanical emboss depth],
- wherein said chemically embossed portion has at least one chemical emboss depth that is greater than the mechanical emboss depth of any portion of said mechanically embossed portion.

LAW OFFICES

NNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000